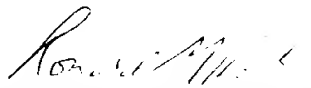


device. The Paoli device only outputs radiation. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable in view of the Paoli patent.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees required by the foregoing Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 32433

Respectfully submitted,  
Pearne & Gordon LLP

By:   
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February 5, 2003

Marked-up version showing changes:

Amendment B

Serial No.: 09/508,340

Filed: May 25, 2000

Title: WIDE AREA MULTI-MODE INTERFEROMETRIC AMPLIFIER WITH  
RECOMBINER

Our Docket No.: 32433

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TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-7 were amended as follows:

1           1.     An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3           at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,  
4           at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5           a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6           a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part.

1           2.     An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3           at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,  
4           at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5           a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6           a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part;  
7           wherein the first and second parts are separated by a curved interface (6).

1           3.     An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3           at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,  
4           at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5           a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6           a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part;  
7           wherein the first and second parts are separated by a V-shaped interface (6).

1           4.     An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3           at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,

4        at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5        a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6        a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part;  
7        wherein the first and second parts are separated by a zigzag shaped interface (6).

1            5.        An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3        at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,  
4        at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5        a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6        a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part;  
7        wherein the first and second parts are separated by an inclined interface (6) on a path  
8 of input (8) and output (10) rays.

1            6.        An interferometric coupler[,] for controlling radiation proceeding  
2 therethrough, the coupler comprising:  
3        at least one input for conveying radiation incident to the coupler,  
4        at least one output for conveying radiation from the coupler,  
5        a first amplifying part (2) for amplifying the incident radiation, and  
6        a second transparent part (4) to guide radiation previously amplified in the first part;  
7        wherein the first and second parts are laid out to be approximately perpendicular to a  
8 path of an incident beam (8) and an output beam (10).

1            7.        The coupler according to any of claims 1-6, wherein a signal mode guide is  
2 placed at [an] the output [of the second part].